

2012 - 2013

# PGY2 Pharmacy Residency

*Neurology  
Cardiology*



DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

GREATER LOS ANGELES  
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

*WEST LOS ANGELES HEALTHCARE CENTER  
11301 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90073*



# PGY2 PHARMACY RESIDENCY IN NEUROLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
GREATER LOS ANGELES HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

# PGY2 PHARMACY RESIDENCY IN CARDIOLOGY

WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

## Introduction



The VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) is the largest and among the most complex medical centers in the nation. It provides a full spectrum of acute and long term inpatient and ambulatory care to approximately 1.4 million veterans residing in the primary service area of Los Angeles, Ventura, and Kern Counties, covering 20,000 square miles. The VAGLAHS consists of one tertiary care facility, two ambulatory care centers, and nine community based outpatient clinics. VAGLAHS is affiliated with both UCLA School of Medicine and USC School of Medicine, as well as more than 45 colleges, universities, and vocational schools in 17 different health care related programs.

The *West Los Angeles Healthcare Center* is a tertiary care teaching facility dedicated to providing a wide array of acute and ambulatory patient care services to our nation's veterans. The comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services provided include a broad range of medical, surgical, and psychiatric care. Internal medicine subspecialties include cardiology, infectious diseases, gastroenterology, allergy, pulmonology, nephrology,

endocrinology, rheumatology, and hematology/oncology. Major surgical subspecialties include orthopedics, urology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, plastics, ENT, podiatry, and cardiothoracic surgery. In addition to the main acute care hospital, there is a 180-bed Nursing Home, a Hospice Unit, Home-Based Primary Care, and a newly built 300+ bed State Home.

The *Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center & Nursing Home* offers a state-of-the-art ambulatory care facility. The center has specialty outpatient programs in spinal cord injury, stroke rehabilitation, women's health, preventative medicine, dentistry, mental health, and chemical dependency. Extended care activities include a 120-bed Academic Nursing Home and a Home-Based Primary Care Program. The facility hosts extensive clinical and basic science research, including Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) and Field Program for Health Science Research and Development (HSR&D). The HSR&D program evaluates provider practice and patient outcome studies in the delivery of ambulatory health care.



The *Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center* is located in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles. It serves as a centrally located facility for the diverse veteran population of the city of Los Angeles, focusing on primary care and mental health services.



The clinic provides special services in post-traumatic stress disorder, day treatment, and mental health services.

## General Information

The VAGLAHS offers PGY2 specialty residency programs in the area of Neurology and Cardiology.

The **PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Neurology** is one of the only neurology residencies offered in the nation. It is a twelve-month long program that provides a very diverse experience in both the acute care and ambulatory care settings. Training is primarily conducted at the West Los Angeles Healthcare Center.

The residency provides a solid foundation in the areas of stroke and epilepsy, but also offers clinical experiences in movement disorders, dementia/neurobehavior, and general neurologic disorders such as headache and neuropathy. Interested residents also have the option of integrating neurosurgery experiences into the training year. Residents are offered the ability to tailor the program to meet their interests in the field of neurology.

Residents will be involved in teaching, with possible appointment as Adjunct Assistant Professor at the USC School of Pharmacy. Residents will also be involved in research.

The **PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Cardiology** is a twelve-month long joint program funded by Western University of Health Sciences. Residents will obtain clinical experiences at the VAGLAHS in both the acute care and ambulatory care settings. Training is conducted at the West Los Angeles Healthcare Center and Western University.

Residents will be involved in academia, obtaining faculty status at the WU College of Pharmacy. Residents will also be involved in research.

Candidates interested in the Cardiology residency would apply through Western University.



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## PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Neurology

### Program Description

This specialty residency provides a comprehensive experience in contemporary neurology pharmacy practice. The resident will provide pharmaceutical care to neurology and neurosurgical patients in an acute setting and in the ambulatory Neurology clinics. Experience in Epilepsy, Stroke, Movement Disorders, General Neurology and Neurobehavior disorders is included. Neurology preceptors include skilled physician providers, neurology pharmacists, and research faculty members with extensive experience in this specialty, as well as in research and academia. Teaching opportunities

include didactic and small group facilitations, as well as precepting pharmacy students and PGY1 pharmacy practice residents. Clinical and laboratory based research opportunities are available.

Research project is required for successful completion of this program. The resident will be given the opportunity to develop a neurology-related research question based on their experience.

### Practice Experience

#### West Los Angeles Healthcare Center (WLA):

*Primary Preceptor: Sunita Dergalust Pharm.D., BCPS, Viet-Huong Nguyen, Pharm.D., M.S., BCPS*

#### Inpatient Experiences

- **Acute Care Neurology:** The resident will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring drug therapy and antimicrobial and anti-epileptic drug pharmacokinetic dosing consults to physicians and allied healthcare professionals. Residents will serve as the drug therapy specialist, as well as a pharmacy educator on the team. They will actively participate in interdisciplinary team meetings and medical rounds. The medical team consists of Board Certified Neurologist attendings, UCLA Neurology fellows, UCLA Neurology residents, UCLA Psychiatry interns, and a clinical pharmacist.

#### Ambulatory Care Experiences

- **Stroke Clinic:** In this clinic, residents will have the opportunity to assess/initiate/adjust medication regimens under the guidance and supervision of clinical pharmacists/attending physicians. Resident responsibilities in the clinic also include: interviewing patients prior to seeing their provider, reviewing medication profiles for drug interactions, appropriate dosing, therapy duplication, possible medication-induced side effects, and assessing compliance and barriers to compliance.
- **Seizure Clinic:** In this one half-day clinic, residents will have opportunities to assess/initiate/adjust AEDs under the guidance and supervision of a PGY2 Neurology pharmacy resident/pharmacist/attending physician. In addition to having the same general responsibilities as those identified for the Stroke Clinic, residents, will assure a comprehensive AED history is obtained, as well as appropriately monitor seizure response.
- **Dementia/Neurobehavior Clinic:** In this one half-day clinic, residents will have the opportunity to conduct an in-depth review of medication profiles, evaluating all medications and their potential to contribute to memory disorders. Residents will also be involved in telephone titration of dementia medications.
- **Movement Disorder Clinic:** In this one half-day clinic, residents will have the opportunity to provide detailed counseling on medications to patients diagnosed with various movement disorders such as Parkinson's, ataxia, and tremor.
- **General Neurology Clinic:** In this two half-day clinic, residents will have the opportunity to provide detailed counseling on medications to patients diagnosed with general neurologic disorders, particularly headache and neuropathy.







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## PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Neurology

### General Program Information

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|---|--|
| <b>General Program Description</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Type/Duration of Program:</b> Full-time residency/12 months</li> <li>• <b>Number of Positions:</b> 1</li> <li>• <b>Application, Letter of Intent, and CV Deadline:</b> POSTMARKED by January 2, 2012</li> <li>• <b>Letters of Recommendation and Transcript Deadline:</b> January 6, 2012</li> <li>• <b>Residency Starting Date:</b> July 1, 2012</li> <li>• <b>Estimated Stipend:</b> \$49,592</li> <li>• <b>Fringe Benefits:</b> Health and life insurance, 10 paid holidays, 12 days sick leave, 12 days vacation/annual leave, professional leave available to attend meetings and educational conferences</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Requirements for Consideration</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an ACPE accredited college of pharmacy</li> <li>• Valid license from any of the 50 states (California licensure required if USC affiliated)</li> <li>• Enrolled in or successful completion of a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency</li> <li>• US citizenship for Federal employment</li> </ul>  |
| <b>USC School of Pharmacy Affiliation</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optional joint appointment to the residency program</li> <li>• Includes faculty appointment and teaching certificate</li> <li>• Responsibilities include teaching/facilitating discussions for Level II and Level III pharmacy students, lecturing</li> <li>• Opportunity to participate in coursework and seminars developed by the university for pharmacy residents</li> <li>• Active California licensure by September 30 of the residency year is required</li> <li>• Separate interview with USC and subsequent acceptance by the university is required</li> <li>• Interested candidates should mark "YES" on the Residency Program Application</li> </ul>         |
| <b>Required Application Materials</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VAGLAHS PGY1 Residency Program Application</li> <li>• <a href="#">OF 306</a> (Declaration for Federal Employment)</li> <li>• Letter of Intent</li> <li>• Curriculum Vitae (CV)</li> <li>• <b>Three</b> Letters of Recommendation, preferably from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PGY1 Residency Program Director</li> <li>○ One employer</li> <li>○ One residency preceptor</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Please utilize forms provided with application packet</i></li> <li>• Official Pharmacy School Transcript</li> <li>• Interview offered to eligible candidates upon initial review of application materials and required for final consideration</li> </ul> |

**Please mail completed application packets to:**

Janette D Lie, PharmD  
Manager, Pharmacy Education and Training  
Residency Program Director, PGY1 Pharmacy Practice  
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System  
Pharmacy Service  
11301 Wilshire Boulevard (691/119)  
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## PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Cardiology

### Program Description



Western University of Health Sciences is an institution with a focus in graduate-level education of health science professionals. Founded in 1977, the university is a small, private, health-focused institution that

fosters interprofessional learning. The university is committed to preparing graduates, in a learner-centered academic and professional environment, who will serve the health care needs of society for today and for the future.

The PGY2 Pharmacy Residency Program in Cardiology is a joint program between Western University of Health Sciences and the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS). It is a 12-month PGY2 non-degree residency program in cardiovascular pharmacy. Since this is a two-

campus program involving Western University and VA West Los Angeles Healthcare Center, residents are required to rotate at both sites, depending on required activities.



The program offers a well-balanced clinical experience between ambulatory care and acute care cardiology. Experiential and didactic teaching, as well as research activities, completes the program. The program is divided into monthly rotations and provides residents with clinical insights and practical experiences in cardiology practice, teaching, and research

## Practice Experience

### Inpatient Experiences

- **Acute Care Cardiology:** During the rotation, the resident will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring drug therapy for the purposes of identifying, preventing and resolving drug-related problems with the patient and the healthcare team. Residents will serve as the drug therapy specialist as well as a pharmacy educator on the team, actively participating in interdisciplinary team meetings and medical rounds. The medical team includes Board Certified Attending Cardiologists, Cardiology fellows, medical residents, and a pharmacist.
- **Consults and Procedures:** The resident will have the opportunity to participate in the cardiology consult service, gaining an appreciation for treating patients with heart disease who are not admitted directly to the inpatient cardiology service. In addition, the resident will have the opportunity to observe various cardiac procedures, including, cardiac angiograms, percutaneous coronary interventions, echocardiograms, electrophysiological procedures, and stress tests.

### Ambulatory Care Experiences

- **Cardiomyopathy Clinic and Risk Reduction Clinic:** In these two multidisciplinary clinics, the resident will have opportunities to conduct medication interviews, assess cardiovascular therapy regimens, educate patients and providers, and act as the drug therapy specialist under attending pharmacist/physician supervision. Resident responsibilities in the clinics include reviewing medication profiles for drug interactions, appropriate dosing, therapy duplication, possible medication-induced side effects, and assessing adherence and barriers to adherence.
- **Anticoagulation Clinic:** In this pharmacist-managed clinic, the resident will be responsible for assessing/adjusting medication regimens, ordering and following up on laboratory tests results under clinical pharmacist supervision. Resident responsibilities in the clinic also include: reviewing medication profiles for drug interactions, appropriate dosing, therapy duplication, possible medication-induced side effects, and assessing adherence and barriers to adherence.

## Program Requirements

### Teaching Responsibilities:

Residents will be required to participate in didactic teaching and assessment within the Western University PharmD curriculum, precept Western U pharmacy students during their rotations, and conduct multidisciplinary presentations to the cardiology healthcare team.

### Research Project:

Residents are required to complete a cardiovascular-oriented research project suitable for presentation and publication. Residents are also required to participate in other ongoing research with the program director.

VA GREATER LOS ANGELES  
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



A Division of VA Desert Pacific  
Healthcare Network

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## Application

**Application is due by January 6, 2012. For additional information and application material, please contact:**

Cynthia Jackevicius, BScPhm, MSc, PharmD, FCSHP, BCPS (AQ Cardiology)  
Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice and Administration  
Residency Program Director, PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Cardiology  
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## Contact Us

### Pharmacy Residency Programs

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## PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Neurology

West Los Angeles Healthcare Center:

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## PGY2 Pharmacy Residency in Cardiology

Western University of Health Sciences:

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